

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Ms. Gergel on 6 May 2008.

The application has been amended as follows:

1. The following was added after the third line of [0010] before "DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION": --

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Figures 1A and 1B. Examples of suitable crown ethers

Figures 2A, 2B, and 2C. Show structural features of the cations of ionic liquids.

Figure 3. Shows comparative FTIR spectra of neat cyclohexyl-15-crown-5 (a) of the room temperature ionic liquid obtained by the reaction of the crown ether with Li(Tf)₂N 1:1 (b) and by 1:1.35 reaction of the ether with Li(Tf)₂N (c).

Figure 4. Shows the comparative Raman spectra in the C-H stretching region of the pure cyclohexyl-15-crown-5 (a) and the RTIL of the 1:1 complex with Li(Tf)₂N (b).

Figure 5. Shows the Raman spectra of propylamine (a) and Ag(H₂N-C₃H₇)₂ + Tf₂N (b).

Figure 6. Shows the proton nmr spectrum of Ag(H₂N-C₃H₇)₂ + (Tf)₂N in deuterated chloroform showing the shifts of the amino, ethyl and methyl propyl amine protons and the splitting patterns, together with peak integrations.

Figure 7. Shows the nmr spectrum for Ag(NH₂R₁)(NH₂R₂) wherein R₁ = R₂ = C₂H₅;

Figure 8. Shows the nmr spectrum for R₁ = R₂ = CH₃;

Figure 9. Shows the nmr spectrum for R = R₂ = tert-butyl;

Figure 10. Shows the proton nmr spectra for mixed amines, for $R_1 = CH_3$, $R_2 = C_2H_5$;

Figure 11. Shows the proton nmr spectra for mixed amines, for $R_1 = CH_3$, $R_2 = C_3H_7$;

Figure 12. Shows the proton nmr spectra for mixed amines, for $R_1 = CH_3$; $R_2 =$ tert-butyl;

Figure 13. Shows the proton nmr spectra for mixed amines, for $R_1 = CH_3 CH_2$, $R_2 = C_3 H_7$;

Figure 14. Shows the proton nmr spectra for mixed amines, for $R_1 = CH_3 CH_2 CH_2$, $R_2 =$ tert-butyl;

Figure 15. Shows the carbon -13 nmr of $R_1 = R_2 = CH_3 CH_2 CH_2$ in deuterated chloroform.

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Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Peter G. O'Sullivan at telephone number (571)272-0642.

/Peter G O'Sullivan/

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